

IFW



16869N-085000US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NOBUMITSU TAKAOKA et al.

Application No.: 10/618,433

Filed: July 10, 2003

For: COMPUTER MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM

Customer No.: 20350

Examiner: Unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2186

Confirmation No.: 5607

**RESUBMISSION OF PETITION TO
MAKE SPECIAL FOR NEW
APPLICATION UNDER M.P.E.P.
§ 708.02, VIII & 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d)**

MAIL STOP PETITION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The enclosed Petition to Make Special was filed on August 23, 2004. Also enclosed is a copy of the Express Mail label stamped August 23, 2004, the return postcard stamped August 23, 2004, the Transmittal Form, and the Fee Transmittal.

No decision on the Petition has not been entered according to Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR).

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request entry of the Petition and issuance of a first Office Action at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400; Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
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EV 530884666 US

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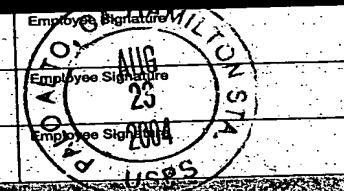
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FILING ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Mailing Date: August 23, 2004
Atty. Docket No.: 16869N-085000US
Application No.: 10/618,433
Inventor(s): Nobumitsu, Takaoka *et al.*
Title: COMPUTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Express Mail No. EV 530884666 US

Enclosed Documents

Transmittal Sheet (1 page)
Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
Preliminary Amendment (9 pages)
Petition to Make Special (7 pages)
Four (4) cited references (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0024870 A1, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0088683 A1; U.S. Patent No. 6,425,015 B1, U.S. Patent No. 6,253,240 B1)
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FILING ACKNOWLEDGMENT

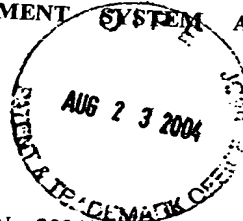
Mailing Date: August 23, 2004
Atty. Docket No.: 16869N-085000US
Application No.: 10/618,433
Inventor(s): Nobumitsu, Takaoka *et al.*
Title: COMPUTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Express Mail No. EV 530884666 US

Enclosed Documents

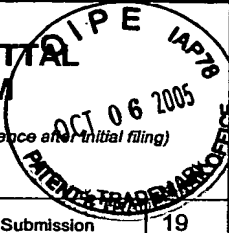
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Four (4) cited references (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0024870 A1, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0088683 A1; U.S. Patent No. 6,425,015 B1, U.S. Patent No. 6,253,240 B1)
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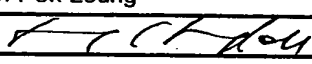
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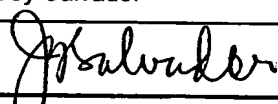
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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence and initial filing) 	Applicant's Address	10/618,433	
	Filing Date	July 10, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	TAKAOKA, Nobumitsu	
	Art Unit	2186	
	Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	19	Attorney Docket Number	16869N-085000US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (in duplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Postcard Copy of the references cited (4 refs.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment (9 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition to Make Special (7 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Remarks The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Chun-Pok Leung Reg. No. 41,405
Signature	
Date	August 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on this date August 23, 2004 and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Joy Salvador		
Signature		Date	August 23, 2004

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FEE TRANSMITTAL

for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

COPY

App. No. 10/618,433

Filing Date July 10, 2003

First Named Inventor TAKAOKA, Nobumitsu

Examiner Name Unassigned

Art Unit 2186

Attorney Docket No. 16869N-085000US

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.01(b).

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 130.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number

20-1430

Deposit Account Name

Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	2001	770	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	2002	340	170	Design filing fee	
1003	2003	530	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	2004	770	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	2005	160	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1)

(\$0.00)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims			
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	2202	18	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	2201	86	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	2203	290	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	2204	86	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	2205	18	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2)

(\$0.00)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	2051	130	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	2052	50	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	1053	130	130	Non-English specification	
1812	1812	2,520	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	1804	920*	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1805	1,840*	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	2251	110	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	2252	420	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	2253	950	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	2254	1,480	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2255	2,010	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	2401	330	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	2402	330	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	2403	290	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1451	1,510	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	2452	110	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	2453	1,330	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	2501	1,330	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	2502	480	240	Design issue fee	
1503	2503	640	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	1460	130	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	130
1807	1807	50	50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
1806	1806	180	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	8021	40	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	2809	770	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	2810	770	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	2801	770	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	1802	900	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3)

(\$130.00)

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

Chun-Pok Leung

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

41,405

Complete (if applicable)

Telephone

650-326-2400

Signature



Date

August 23, 2004

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 16869N-085000US
Client Ref. No.: NT1184US

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NOBUMITSU TAKAOKA et al.

Application No.: 10/618,433

Filed: July 10, 2003

For: COMPUTER MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM

Customer No.: 20350

Examiner: Unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2186

Confirmation No.: 5607

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL FOR
NEW APPLICATION UNDER M.P.E.P.
§ 708.02, VIII & 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a petition to make special the above-identified application under MPEP § 708.02, VIII & 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d). The application has not received any examination by an Examiner.

(a) The Commissioner is authorized to charge the petition fee of \$130 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) and any other fees associated with this paper to Deposit Account 20-1430.

(b) All the claims are believed to be directed to a single invention. If the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, then Applicants will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status.

(c) Pre-examination searches were made of U.S. issued patents, including a classification search, a computer database search, and a keyword search. The searches were performed on or around June 10, 2004, and were conducted by a professional search firm, Kramer & Amado, P.C. The classification search covered Classes 345 (subclass 736), 709 (subclasses 225 and 230), 710 (subclass 15), and 713 (subclass 100). The computer database search was conducted on the USPTO systems EAST and WEST. The keyword search was conducted in Classes 709 (subclasses 223 and 224), 710 (subclasses 7 and 8), and 713 (subclass 1). The inventors further provided a reference considered most closely related to the subject matter of the present application (see reference #4 below), which was cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the application on July 10, 2003.

(d) The following references, copies of which are attached herewith, are deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims:

- (1) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0024870 A1;
- (2) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0088683 A1;
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,425,015 B1; and
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,253,240 B1.

(e) Set forth below is a detailed discussion of references which points out with particularity how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over the references.

A. Claimed Embodiments of the Present Invention

The claimed embodiments relate to a method of visualizing the connection relationships between a storage system and an object computer that is an object of management which is implemented in a management computer. The present technique uses an identifier inherent to a data processing device to grasp a connection relationship, and makes it possible to visualize the connection relationships among a plurality of devices interconnected over a storage network without the need to implement a connection information acquiring unit in an object computer.

Independent claim 1 recites a computer management system having an object computer, a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored, and a management computer that manages the storage system and object computer. The storage system comprises an acquisition unit that acquires first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the object computer; and a communication unit that transmits the first connection information to the management computer. The management computer comprises a communication unit that receives the first connection information from the storage system; and a display that uses an output screen to visualize connection relationships between the storage system and computer on the basis of the first connection information.

Independent claim 8 recites a storage system which has a plurality of communication ports and in which data to be communicated to an object computer through one of the communication ports is stored. The storage system comprises an acquisition unit that acquires first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the object computer; and a communication unit that transmits the first connection information to a management computer.

Independent claim 9 recites a management computer for managing an object computer and a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored. The management computer comprises a communication unit that receives first

connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the storage system; and a display that uses an output screen thereof to visualize connection relationships between the storage system and the object computer on the basis of the first connection information.

Independent claim 10 recites a management method for managing connection relationships between an object computer and a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored. The method comprises acquiring first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the object computer; and transmitting the first connection information to a management computer.

Independent claim 11 recites a management method for managing connection relationships between an object computer and a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored. The method comprises receiving first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the storage system; and using an output screen to visualize the connection relationships between the storage system and the object computer on the basis of the first connection information.

Independent claim 12 recites management software for managing connection relationships between an object computer and a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored. The management software allows the storage system to act as means for acquiring first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the object computer; and means for transmitting the first connection information to a management computer.

Independent claim 13 recites a computer readable storage medium having a management program for managing connection relationships between an object computer and

a storage system in which data to be communicated to the object computer is stored. The management program comprises code for receiving first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer, and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, from the storage system; and code for using an output screen to visualize the connection relationships between the storage system and the object computer on the basis of the first connection information.

One benefit that may be derived is that the development of an agent program is not required, and the associated cost can be avoided.

B. Discussion of the References

None of the following references disclose or suggest a storage system that acquires from the object computer first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, and provides the first connection information to a management computer. Nor do they teach using an output screen to visualize the connection relationships between the storage system and the object computer on the basis of the first connection information.

1. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0024870 A1

This reference discloses a storage network system including computers, storage systems, connection devices that control connection relations between the computers and the storage system, and a managing device that manages the computers, the storage system, and the connection devices. In Fig. 2, the managing computer 201 connects to computers A and B, and storage apparatus A and B. The managing device includes a control section that specifies connection ports of the computers, the storage system, and the connection devices that compose the storage network system. There is no acquisition from an object computer of first connection information which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, and transmission of the first connection information to the management computer.

2. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0088683 A1

This reference discloses a management display method according to each type of interfaces and devices provided in an environment where host computers are interconnected with storage apparatuses through plural types of interfaces. The management host computer includes a display apparatus and allows a user to select a physical view for displaying a physical topology between each host and storage subsystems or a logical view for displaying a connecting relation between the devices of the storage subsystem and each host computer. The management host computer 2 operates to collect the information of the Fibre channel interface and the Ethernet interface and the information about an access limitation of each device, included in each host computer and storage subsystem and then to display the connecting relation according to the display method selected by the user, based on the collected information. In this system, the host 1 includes the software called an agent 11 which serves to communicate with the management host 2. The management host 2 includes a manager 21 through which information is transferred with each agent 11. The information about the apparatus is collected and managed from each agent 11 of the host 1 and the management agent 514 of the storage 5 by the manager 21 of the management host 2. The management host 2 collects information from the host 1 and the storage 5 or the Ethernet switch 3 or the Fibre channel switch 4, and serves to display a connecting relation (topology) between the host 1 and the storage 5 based on the collected information. See [0040]-[0042] and [0047].

3. U.S. Patent No. 6,425,015 B1

This reference discloses a communications apparatus for a computer network in which a plurality of network devices communicate with each other. The apparatus comprises management means being arranged to have defined therein one or more relationship between a subset of the ports in which communications passing through one of the ports should be communicated to another of the ports. The management means is arranged to transmit, together with each network communication transmitted to the interconnection means, an indication of whether the network communication has been received at a port on one of the communication devices which has a relationship with a port in another one of the communication devices, and to read the indications received together

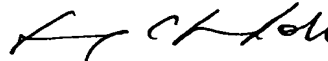
with network communications received from the interconnection means. The reference is devoid of any disclosure of a storage system that acquires from the object computer first connection information, which contains a communication port identifier of the object computer and a communication port identifier assigned to the communication port of the storage system, and provides the first connection information to a management computer.

4. U.S. Patent No. 6,253,240 B1

This reference discloses a distributed storage management program for managing a network which comprises multiple data storage devices attached to multiple host computer systems. The management program includes a separate agent in each host, and a central manager. The agents gather data and communicate with the manager across a communication path which is independent of the storage network. The manager collates the data from different agents to produce a coherent view of the network. This system relies on agents for gathering information. As discussed in the present application, the agent program deteriorates the ability of a computer to run certain transaction software because the agent program consumes computer resources, and leads the high cost of development.

(f) In view of this petition, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a first Office Action at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

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